LEPIDOPTERA OF THE RUSSELL GRIMWADE EXPEDITION

By R. T. M. Pescott, M.Agr.Sc., Director, National Museum of Victoria.

Owing to the fact that the Expedition made the journey across Australia at the end of winter, there were very few specimens of moths seen on the wing.

The following species, one of which is new, were recorded, and, in some cases, considerably extend the range of known species:

Family NOCTUIDAE

Subfamily ACRONYCTINAE

Radinogoes tenuis Butl.

Locality: Nullarbor Homestead, S.A. (R.T.M.P.), 28/8/47—1 specimen.

Subfamily AGROTINAE

Euxoa radians Gn.

Locality: Nullarbor Homestead, S.A. (R.T.M.P.), 28/8/47—3 specimens.

Subfamily MELANCHRINAE

Sideridis ewingi West.

Locality: Nullarbor Homestead, S.A. (R.T.M.P.), 28/8/47—2 specimens.

Family BOARMIDAE

Idiodes apicata Gn.

Locality: Pimelea, W.A. (R.T.M.P.), 7/9/47—1 specimen.

Family ARCTIIDAE
Subfamily LITHOSIANAE

Genus THALLARCHA

Thallarcha eremicola n. sp.

Plate I, Figs. a, b.

3 9 18-21 mms. Head white; face black. Palpi and antennae fuscous. Thorax black, flecked with white; patagia and apices of tegulae white. Abdomen chamois (Ridgeway Colour Chart, 1912). Legs ochreous, anterior pair fuscous.

Forewings elongate-oval, costa very slightly arched, apex flat-pointed, termen slightly curved, oblique, greyish-white with dark fuscous markings, particularly

in distal apex region; a fuscous costal streak from 1/5 to 3/5 of costa, a costal dot at 4/5; a series of seven black dots along whole length of termen; a curved fuscous streak on dorsum at 1/5, two parallel longitudinal fuscous markings at $\frac{1}{2}$ dorsum, running halfway up discal area, indefinite smoky dots between these and tornus; dark spot at tornus.

Hindwings with termen distinctly rounded, cream-buff (Ridgeway Colour Chart, 1912); an elongate dot in anterior discal area; apical blotch fuscous

running half down termen. Cilia cream-buff, at apex fuscous.

This species comes closest to *T. jocularis* Ros., from which it differs considerably in the markings on the forewings and the elongated discal dot on the hind wings.

Six specimens, all collected on the surface of a pool of water on extensive granite outcrops, half a mile south of the Balladonia Homestead, Western Australia (R.T.M.P.), on August 31, 1947.

Type in collection of National Museum of Victoria.

Family LASIOCAMPIDAE

Digglesia rufescens Walk.

Locality: Pimelea, W.A., 7/9/47—1 specimen.

Family GEOMETRIDAE

Prasinocyma semicrocea Walk.

Locality: Pimelea, W.A., 7/9/47—1 specimen.